



Mini-Grant Application

“YOUth Can!”

Due March 15, 2010

Presented by



Coordinated by the Nebraska InterCorps Council
a collaboration of AmeriCorps members in service in Nebraska





YOUth Can!
Global Youth Service Day Mini-Grant Application:

Thank you for your interest

What: ServeNebraska, the Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission, is making funding available to organizations, schools, programs and institutions to develop, coordinate and implement small projects that will engage Nebraska youths in service to their local communities in conjunction with Global Youth Service Day, April 23-25, 2010. Applications should address this year's theme: "YOUth Can!" Our goal is to include as many youth as possible and help them build a strong service and service-learning foundation. Details on Global Youth Service Day can be found here: <http://gysd.org/>

Your application should support Nebraska youth in local one-day or continuous service projects with a service-learning component. Please submit a full application (attached), including a detailed proposed budget and project description. The complete application should not be longer than five (5) pages.

There are two pools of funding available – one for efforts benefiting any Nebraska youth and the other specifically focused on engaging youth with disabilities. Please state which pool of funds you are applying for within your application. ***The mini-grant awards for both pools will be capped at \$500.00.***

Deadline: To apply for a ServeNebraska Global Youth Service Day mini-grant, please complete and return the attached application form no later than **Monday, March 15, 2010 at 5:00 pm CST** to Greg Donovan at greg.donovan@nebraska.gov . If email submission is not an option, hard copies by fax [402-471-6249] or delivery/mail to:

Greg Donovan
ServeNebraska
6th Floor/State Capitol Building
PO Box 98927
Lincoln, NE 68509-8927

Selection Criteria: Projects may be chosen based on the following criteria: number of engaged youth volunteers; cost-effectiveness; location; and proposed impact. Preference will be given to projects with multiple funding sources; projects that engage and/or serve individuals with disabilities, particularly children; projects that occur in central - and/or western - Nebraska; and projects that have a cost-per-youth ratio of \$1.00 per 1 youth or better. Applicants are encouraged to provide matching funds (cash and/or In-kind). Please provide information in the budget portion of the application about intended match resources. ServeNebraska reserves the right to award partial funding based on the applicants proposed budget and project description.

Allowable use of funds: Funds are limited and meant to be used for direct programming needs. Allowable uses of funds are project materials, transportation for participants, food, beverages and other necessary refreshments, venue or material rentals. Funds may not be used to cover personnel costs.

Reporting: If you are chosen for a mini-grant award you will be required to provide service data, including the number of youth engaged, number of service beneficiaries, and items created as applicable. Additionally, you will be required to submit a one-page project summary narrative at the conclusion of the Global Youth Service Day activity.



2010 Global Youth Service Day Mini Grant Application

1. Contact Information

Contact Name: Janine Barber

Email: jbarber@esu13.org Phone: 308-635-3696

Organization (legal applicant name): LifeLink-Nebraska at Western Nebraska Community College

Address: 4215 Avenue I, Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Youth Contact Person: Cody Leathermon

Age: 20 E-mail: cleathermon89@yahoo.com

2. Project Details

Organization Type: (Select all that apply)

☐ Faith-based

XXX ☐ Non-profit

XXX ☐ Education

☐ Club

☐ Business

☐ Other: _____

Which pool of funding are you applying for:

XXX ☐ Disability Inclusion Youth Service

Community Served: Scottsbluff-Gering and Surrounding Communities

Description of Youth Population (ages, demographics): Students attending the LifeLink-Nebraska program at WNCC are young adults with disabilities (ages 18-21).

Expected Number of Volunteers: 24

Number of Youth (age 5-25) anticipated out of expected volunteers: 14

3. Please describe your Youth Service Day Project plan and how it is applicable to the "YOUth Can!" theme:

LifeLink-Nebraska students at WNCC will assist a community group with a goal of revitalizing the Soap-Box Derby Hill and Race in Scottsbluff. Our community has a track which has not been used since the 1980's. The citizen's committee has raised enough money to resurface the track and obtained lumber from Home Depot to build a concession stand. LifeLink students will assist the community group with building the concession stand, installing rail guards, bleachers, and general landscaping to prepare the track for racing in the Summer of 2010.

In addition, LifeLink students will purchase a soap box derby kit car authorized by the organization Soap Box Derby. The students will build the car to specifications as a class project with help from the citizen committee. Although the students are too old to race the car, they will donate the use of the car to younger students with disabilities or other young people in the community who are disadvantaged and need a car.



The LifeLink program promotes the philosophy of service-learning by completing annual projects which promote this philosophy. We also strongly believe that youth with disabilities can contribute to the good of the community in a number of ways. We are anxious for community members at large to recognize the abilities of our students and not their disabilities.

4. Project Location (Complete Address): Soap Box Derby Hill located 1 mile west and north of Scottsbluff. Car will be built at The Harms Advanced Technology Center on the campus of Western Nebraska Community College.

5. Does your project include a Service-Learning approach: XXX ☐ Yes

If yes, please describe: The completion of several service learning projects is part of the program curriculum each school year. Previous projects were a blood drive on campus, starting a recycling project on campus, a Christmas toy drive for disadvantaged children, and a food drive to stock the local food pantry.

6. If your project includes youth with disabilities or focuses on serving those with disabilities,
Describe how: All students working on this project are students with disabilities. They are part of a very unique program which is funded by their local school, but allows them to attend a program on a community-college campus. Students represent the following disability categories: Autism, Fragile X Syndrome, Learning Disabilities, ADHD, Mental Handicap, Behavioral Impairments, visual impairment, hearing impairment.

7. Does your project plan to engage youth not normally asked to serve: XX ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please explain: Society generally believes that people with disabilities are helpless and rely on others for constant support and supervision. Students in this program are attending college courses, working in real jobs, developing independent living skills, and learning how to function and be an asset to their communities. Some, if able, are learning to drive as well. We are proud of their accomplishments.

8. How will your project meet the needs of your community: As mentioned in the description of the project, LifeLink students will work with community members to rejuvenate a positive activity for youth in our community, that has been dormant for over 30 years.

9. Day(s) completing service: ☐ April 23 ☐ April 24 ☐ April 25 XXX ☐ Other: Project will begin as soon as warm weather allows. Soap Box Derby Car must be built and ready to go by May 25, the last day of the school term.

10. How will you recruit volunteers for this project: The citizen committee is already in place. Leaders of this committee have made a presentation to our students. (March 3) Parents of



students and spouses of staff members have indicated a willingness to assist. We are able to recruit volunteers from the ESU # 13 staff through e-mail and personal contacts.

11. How will you involve youth in leadership roles: Youth are selecting the type of car they wish to build. They will determine the color scheme, graphic designs placed on the car and helmet, and make suggestions as to youth who might be able to use the car.

12. How many youth are involved in the planning of this service project: 14

13. Is this project a collaboration with another service day: ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, which one(s) and with whom:

14. What supplies or resources will be necessary to complete this project: Purchase of the soap box derby car kit. Purchase of wheels, helmet, paint. Purchase one tank of gas to get students to and from the hill for construction and general maintenance of the hill.

15. What is the plan for participant and volunteer transportation to the project location? ESU # 13 has several vehicles assigned to this program. We will use those vehicles to transport students to and from the derby hill as needed. The citizen committee will meet us at the Hill.

16. How will you track numbers of volunteers and volunteer service hours: A data sheet will be kept revealing times of service, number of students involved, number of other volunteers, and length of service.

17. What will the end result of your project be: The derby hill will have a concession stand and guard rails installed. The location will be free of weeds and grassy areas will be mowed. The soap box car will be built to specifications and painted in an eye-catching design. The car will be available to use for the first race scheduled in August, 2010.

18. How will you know your project was a success: Races are being held at the Soap Box Derby Hill in Scottsbluff Nebraska on a regular basis. Area youth are involved in the Soap Box Derby Organization.

Budget Summary (Be as detailed as possible)

1. Please present the full budget for the project, highlighting other sources of funds.

Materials/ Supplies:



ITEM	REQUEST	OTHER FUNDS	SOURCE(S) OF OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL COST
Super Stock Car Kit	400.00	65.00	Class Funds	465.00
Helmet		13.75	Class Funds	13.75
Racing Wheels (4)	100.00	10.00	Class Funds	110.00
Paint, Decals, MISC	0	50.00	Class Funds	50.00
<i>Sub-Total</i>	500.00	138.75		638.75

Travel (mileage, food costs):

ITEM	REQUEST	OTHER FUNDS	SOURCE(S) OF OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL COST
Gasoline	0	30.00	Program Transportation Funds	30.00
<i>Sub-Total</i>				

Other:

ITEM	REQUEST	OTHER FUNDS	SOURCE(S) OF OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL COST
<i>Sub-Total</i>				

Total:

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2. Budget Narrative: Please describe why the requested funds are necessary for the success of this project.

The funds requested are necessary to purchase the soap box derby kit car. These kits are now mandated for use to keep the competition fair for all. Wheels are not included in the kit and must be an additional purchase.

The class has done several fundraisers to come up with money for this project. They have made and sold popcorn at trainings and meetings at the college. They have also sold customer coupon books for Herberger's Department Store.